educational system". Corporal punishment is strictly prohibited, in schools run by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti and Central Tibetan School Administration, which are under this Ministry.

Compulsory assessment of colleges and universities

2192. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a legislation to make assessment compulsory for colleges and universities so that they do not skip quality assessment of teachers, students, infrastructure and general academic environment;

(b) if so, by when a final decision for introducing the legislation is likely to be taken; and

(c) to what extent it would be beneficial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Scholarships to backward communities

2193. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started new scholarships for SCs/STs/OBCs/ minorities in the country, especially in Bihar and Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken care that the scholarship is provided to the needy; and

(d) if so, the criteria adopted for checking it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVEOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have introduced new Central Sector Scholarship Schemes of Top Class Education for SC and ST students respectively from the academic year 2007-08 with the objective of encouraging meritorious SC and ST students for pursuing degree and post degree courses in identified institutions. The total family income of the student to be eligible for the scholarship from all sources should not exceed Rs.2.00 lakhs per annum. The Scholarship covers full tuition fees and other non-refundable dues in respect of Government/Government funded institutions. However, there is ceiling of Rs.2 lakhs per annum per beneficiary studying in identified private sector institutions and Rs.3.72 lakhs per annum per beneficiary undergoing training in identified private sector flying clubs for commercial pilot training on tuition fees and other non-refundable dues. Up to Rs.2200/- per month for living expenses (based on actuals), Rs.3000/- per annum for books and stationery and Rs.45,000/-